

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) An isolated nucleic acid comprising bases 89-1060 of SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (withdrawn—currently amended) ~~An isolated~~ A protein consisting of ~~an~~ the amino acid sequence ~~shown by~~ of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 3-4 canceled.

5. (currently amended) A plant ~~which is transgenic for~~ transformed with the nucleic acid of claim 4 20.
6. (currently amended) A plant cell ~~which is transgenic for~~ transformed with the nucleic acid of claim 4 20.
7. (currently amended) A method of growing a plant comprising transforming said plant with the nucleic acid of claim 4; 20 such that allowing said the protein encoded by said nucleic acid to be is expressed in said the transformed plant ~~and growing said plant,~~ wherein said the transformed plant ~~will grow~~ grows larger than a plant not transformed with said nucleic acid.

Claims 8-10 canceled.

11. (currently amended) A method of ~~growing a plant transgenic for NAC1 larger than~~ increasing the growth of a plant not transgenic for NAC1, the method comprising overexpressing the protein of SEQ ID NO. 2 ~~NAC1~~ in said plant ~~transgenic for NAC1 and wherein the expression of NAC1 causes the~~ transgenic plant to grow larger than the non transgenic plant.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said plant ~~transgenic for NAC1~~ produces larger leaves than ~~said a plant not transgenic for NAC1~~ overexpressing said protein.
13. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said plant ~~transgenic for NAC1~~ produces larger roots than ~~said a plant not transgenic for NAC1~~ overexpressing said protein.
14. (currently amended) The method of claim 11 wherein said plant ~~transgenic for NAC1~~ produces more lateral roots than ~~said a plant not transgenic for NAC1~~ overexpressing said protein.
15. (currently amended) A method of ~~growing a plant transgenic for NAC1 larger than a plant not transgenic for NAC1, the method~~ increasing the growth of a plant comprising transforming said plant with a nucleic acid encoding the overexpressing in said transgenic plant a protein of SEQ ID NO:2 or a protein that is at least 70% sequence identical to SEQ ID NO:2 and can form dimers, bind to the same DNA binding sites as NAC1 and cause wherein said plants plant transformed with a nucleic acid expressing the protein to grow grows larger than a plant not transformed with a said nucleic acid expressing the protein.
16. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said plant ~~transgenic for NAC1~~ produces larger leaves than ~~said a plant not transgenic for NAC1~~ transformed with said nucleic acid.
17. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said plant ~~transgenic for NAC1~~ produces larger roots than ~~said a plant not transgenic for NAC1~~ transformed with said nucleic acid.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 15 wherein said plant ~~transgenic for NAC1~~ produces more lateral roots than ~~said a plant not transgenic for NAC1~~ not transformed with said nucleic acid.

Claim 19 canceled.

20. (previously presented) A nucleic acid encoding the protein of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 21-23 canceled.